

# The Appointment ➤

**"A Newsletter for Mayoral Appointees to Boards and Commissions" Volume 1, Issue 1**  
**November 2004**

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**Government  
of the District of  
Columbia**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
OF THE MAYOR**

**Office of Boards  
and Commissions**

**Ronald R. Collins  
Director**



## Dear Appointees:

I would like to begin by thanking all of you for the hard work you perform for the District. The functions you carry out are very important to the citizens of the District of Columbia and necessary for the effective operation of our government.

Public service plays a vital role in our community and your involvement with a board or commission in the District of Columbia is a great way to make a difference in issues that affect the every day lives of our neighbors, friends, and the business community. As a member of a board, you are participating in a long tradition of citizen governance. Your generous contribution of your time, experience and talent assures the continuation of this fine tradition of citizen involvement in government in the District.

This is the first in a series of newsletters that will be sent out to all mayoral appointees serving on boards and commissions. We will be highlighting several boards and commissions to inform you of their accomplishments. In addition, the newsletter will be used to provide you with the updated policies and procedures for successful service on the boards.

I value the service that each of you provides to the citizens of the District of Columbia. I join you in your belief that citizen representation is important as the foundation of our democracy. Therefore, the influence felt by the work and decisions of the persons who serve on our boards and commissions is extensive. It is indeed government by the people in the most fundamental way.

I want to express my gratitude to all of you again and encourage you to continue your great work. ➤

Sincerely,

*Anthony A. Williams*

Anthony A. Williams  
Mayor



**Service ➤ Responsibility ➤ Integrity**

## FEATURED BOARD: Developmental Disabilities State Planning Council

### Annie Goodson Chairs DD Council

**Ms. Annie Goodson**, who is retired from the Government of the District of Columbia and who formerly served as the Commissioner of the Commission on Social Services for the Department of Human Services, was appointed by Mayor Anthony A. Williams to serve as chair of the 31-seat DC Developmental Disabilities State Planning (Council). Ms. Goodson is a long time advocate for the developmentally disabled and their families and in her charge to the Council she encouraged members to be diligent in their advocacy to ensure opportunities for individuals with disabilities to be employed, to live in their own homes, to enjoy community amenities, and to be contributing residents of the District.

The membership of the DD Council includes individuals with developmental disabilities, parents or guardians of individuals with developmental disabilities, representatives of principal state agencies, the State Protection and Advocacy Agency (University Legal Service), and the University Center for Excellence in Education and Developmental Disabilities (Georgetown University Child Development Center). The Council has diverse representation that includes individuals from the Asian Pacific Islander Community and the Latino Community.

The Executive Director of the DD Council is Ms. Mary P. Brown. ➔

## "Profoundly Normal"



Actress Kirstie Alley (rear center), and Ricky, Donna and Ricardo Thornton during a Washington, D.C. Screening of *"Profoundly Normal"*.

Developmental Disabilities Council member, Ricardo Thornton, and his wife, Donna, were the subject of a made for TV movie entitled "Profoundly Normal" which aired on February 9, 2003. The movie, starring Kirstie Alley and Delroy Lindo, told the story of Ricardo and Donna's survival, friendship and subsequent love as committed residents of Forest Haven, the District of Columbia's residential institution for individuals with developmental disabilities, which is now closed.

The movie portrayed the hardship they experienced growing up in a environment with the profoundly retarded, of imposed limitations, and of understanding those limitations and making a stand to begin directing their own lives. As two people who grew into believing in themselves and their love, they were able to overcome the stigma of the institutionalized, make believers of the many professionals responsible for their care, and live independently happily as husband and wife.

Donna and Ricardo are both employed. She works at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and he works at the Martin Luther King Library. Their son and only child, Ricky is a typical teenager who provides the typical challenges to parenting; however, their commitment to each other and belief in their abilities have been essential in their becoming a "profoundly normal" family, and inclusive and contributing members of the D.C. Community.

# FYI

## Guidelines

### ...for Annual Reports by Boards

The Mayor, staff and members of the Board of Appeals and Review (which was sunset in May 2004)



Each board is required to file an annual report to the Mayor, through the Office of Boards and Commissions, not later than January 30<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year, on board activities and actions for the previous fiscal year. The report must include the following:

1. Major program accomplishments;
2. Listing of number, including dates of regular and special meetings held during the year;
3. Listing of number, including dates and locations of public hearings;
4. Unresolved problems or issues that warrant mayoral attention;
5. If a regulatory board, a summary of official actions taken;
6. Summary of legislative issues that affect the board and/or on which the board has provided comments to the executive branch or given testimony;

7. Summary of purpose and intent of any regulations or public notices issued;
8. An assessment of the effectiveness of the board's operations in meeting its stated goals and recommendations for improving operations or linkages with the District government;
9. A projection of critical issues to be address in the next year, including:
  - a) Planned program objectives to be accomplished;
  - b) Major legislative issues to be addressed;
  - c) Major issues to be discussed and addressed; and
  - d) Planned issuance of public notices and regulations.

The annual report must be signed by the chairperson of the board.

## Government Employees as Board Members

When District government employees serve on a board to represent their department or agency, they do so as part of their assigned duties. Should such members be unable to attend meetings, they or the chairperson of the board should contact the Office of Boards and Commissions.

All full-time employees of the District government are disqualified from receiving any enumeration for service on boards and commissions, except as expressly provided by law or authorized by the Mayor. This firm and unequivocal policy should be brought to the attention of government employees serving on any board. Inquiries concerning the application of this policy or requests for exemption within the discretion of the Mayor should be directed to the Office of Boards and Commissions.

Federal government employees serving on District boards and commissions are responsible for obtaining an opinion from the general counsel to their agency or other appropriate authority as to whether their receiving compensation from the District may violate the Dual Compensation Act.

# From the Director's Corner

Welcome to the Office of Boards and Commissions and our first edition of *The Appointment*.

This newsletter is intended to provide information, guidance, direction, procedures, and other items of interest to those who presently serve and those who seek to serve on boards and commissions in the District of Columbia. *The Appointment* has been prepared by the Office of Boards and Commissions (OBC), Executive Office of the Mayor, Government of the District of Columbia.

The OBC is proud to assist the Mayor in appointing citizens to boards and commissions by recruiting qualified candidates, timely processing of applications, and by providing excellent customer service and support to each participant in the Mayoral appointments process. The District of Columbia has over 150 different boards and commissions.

On behalf of Mayor Anthony A. Williams, we welcome you to your service as a member of a board or commission in the District of Columbia. We also extend our thanks for your willingness to participate in the governance of the District of Columbia. You have been appointed by Mayor Williams to serve the interests of the citizens of the District based on your skills, vision, and experience.

Again, welcome and a very warm thank you for your service! ➤

*Ronald R. Collins*

Ronald R. Collins, Director  
Office of Boards and Commissions  
Executive Office of the Mayor

## Board Member Notes

### Tribute to Board Member Wesley S. Vinner



Wesley Vinner, a member of the Developmental Disabilities Council, DC State Rehabilitation Advisory Council, former member of the Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities, and a prospective member of the DC Statewide Independent Living Council, passed on Monday, April 12, 2004. He lived his life as a tireless advocate for Americans with mental retardation on both the local and national levels. He testified before Congress and was frequently seen in the District's City Council Chamber speaking up for the rights of all people, including those with mental retardation. Wesley was a catalyst for change. He attended the Rose Garden Ceremony with President William Jefferson Clinton and was presented with the pen used to sign the Jeffords - Kennedy Work Incentives Improvement Act that created new health options for people with disabilities. He was definitely an advocacy force to be reckoned with.



# Photo Journal...

## *Mayoral Swearing In Ceremonies*



Derrell Simpson, Member, Commission on National and Community Service



Raymond K. Tu, M.D.  
Member, Board of Medicine



Members, Washington Convention Center Board of Directors - Jeffrey Humber, Mitchell Schear, Marc Ellin



Members,  
Commission on Metabolic Disorders



Members, Board of Real Property Assessments and Appeals



Gregg Jeffries Member,  
Board of Zoning Adjustment



Jane Smith, Ed.D.  
UDC Board of Trustees

REPORT OF RECENT MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			
Board Name and Responsibilities	Name of Mayoral Appointee	Ward	Occupation
<b>Advisory Board on Veterans Affairs</b>	<i>Advises on all matters pertaining to veterans in the District.</i>		
	Thaddeus A. Hoffmeister	5	Congressional staff assistant.
	Kessela E. Brown	3	Claims appeals representative with veterans organization.
	James Munley	2	Information technology.
<b>Board of Architecture and Interior Designers</b>	<i>Regulates and licenses the profession of architecture and interior design in the District.</i>		
	Brenda Sanchez	6	Chairperson: Architect.
	Mathilda M. Cox	2	Interior Designer.
	Tama Duffy	6	Interior Designer.
	Alfred H. Liu	6	Architect.
	Joseph E. Taylor	1	Architect.
<b>Board of Elections and Ethics</b>	<i>Administers and manages elections, and ensures compliance with ethics and financial disclosure laws in the District.</i>		
	Wilma A. Lewis, Esquire	2	Chairperson; Attorney in private practice.
	Charles R. Lowery, Esquire	4	Policy counsel with non-profit organization.
	Lenora Cole, Ph.D.	4	Independent contractor.
<b>Board of Funeral Directors</b>	<i>Regulates and licenses funeral directors in the District.</i>		
	Lynn Armstrong Patterson	5	Funeral Director.
<b>Board of Medicine</b>	<i>Regulates and licenses the physicians in the District.</i>		
	Raymond K. Tu, M.D.	2	Physician.
	William E. Matory, M.D.	4	Physician.
<b>Board of Nursing Home Administrators</b>	<i>Regulates and monitors nursing home administration in the District.</i>		
	Steven A. Nash	4	Nursing home administrator.
	Elizabeth Nolte, M.D.	1	Physician.
	Edwin Powell, Ph.D.	4	Educational Administrator.
<b>Board of Professional Counseling</b>	<i>Regulates the practice of professional counseling.</i>		
	Diana B. Eskin	3	Professional counselor.
<b>Board of Professional Engineering</b>	<i>Regulates the practice of professional engineering and land surveyors in the District.</i>		
	Ernest T. Boykins, Jr.	4	Principal in financial business organization.
<b>Board of Real Estate</b>	<i>Regulates the practice of the real estate industry in the District.</i>		
	Jacqueline Dorfmann	3	Realtor.
	Alton E. Duncanson	4	Realtor.
<b>Citizen Complaint Review Board</b>	<i>Makes findings and recommendations on citizen complaints of misconduct by officers in the Metropolitan Police Department and Special Police.</i>		
	Patricia Ann Fischer, Ph.D.	7	Professional psychologist/psychologist.
<b>College Savings Program Advisory Board</b>	<i>Advises the Chief Financial Officer on the administration of the College Savings Program, including public information and outreach, implementing regulations, investment policy, and procedures governing applications, account management, and the disbursement of funds.</i>		
	Natalie C. Greene	7	Chairperson; Business manager.
	Gregory L. Jefferson	4	Union lobbyist.
	Curtis E. Large	3	CEO/CFO of private firm.
<b>Commission on Arts and Humanities</b>	<i>Encourages and develops programs to promote the arts, including providing arts grants.</i>		
	Monica Wroblewski	2	Senior press officer for nonprofit educational organization.

## Report of Recent Mayoral Appointments (continued)

<b>Commission on Latino Community Development</b>	Advises on and promotes to the Mayor, OLA Director, and Council views, needs and the development of the Latino community in the District.		
	<b>Gilberto Cardenas</b>	<b>3</b>	Project Manager for development firm.
	<b>Andrea M. Barbarin</b>	<b>6</b>	Coordinator with nonprofit organization.
	<b>Roberto Coquis</b>	<b>2</b>	Administrator for federal government agency.
	<b>Alberto Figueroa Garcia</b>	<b>1</b>	Professional psychologist.
<b>Commission on Violence Against Women</b>	Advises and recommends on policy and program strategies for the reduction of violence against women; serve as the administrative agency for receipt and management of funds under the Violence Against Women Act and other Federal or local funds designated for the reduction of violence against women.		
	<b>Sandy I-Ru Grace, Esquire</b>	<b>3</b>	Chairperson; Attorney with private firm.
	<b>V. Nadine Daniel</b>	<b>6</b>	Deputy Director of private education organization.
	<b>Cedric R. Hendricks, Esquire</b>	<b>4</b>	Citizen.
<b>Corrections Information Council</b>	Reports on matters and information affecting the sentenced felon population in the District.		
	<b>Ronald E. Hampton</b>	<b>4</b>	Executive Director of national law enforcement organization.
	<b>Linda J. Smith</b>	<b>7</b>	Manager, local utility company.
	<b>John McDowell</b>	<b>4</b>	Public liaison with a federal agency.
<b>Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board</b>	Advises on methods to prevent domestic violence fatalities and methods to improve the response of individuals, the community, and government agencies to domestic violence.		
	<b>Dianne M. Hampton</b>	<b>7</b>	Citizen.
	<b>John D. Robinson, M.D.</b>	<b>4</b>	Professor of Psychiatry and surgery.
	<b>Lydia Carson Watts</b>	<b>1</b>	Women's advocacy organization.
	<b>Margaret A. Hacskeylo</b>	<b>2</b>	Transitional housing social worker.
	<b>Sandy I-Ru Grace</b>	<b>6</b>	Attorney with private firm.
	<b>Regina M. James</b>	<b>5</b>	Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner.
	<b>Sharlene J. Kranz</b>	<b>3</b>	Librarian, social advocacy organization.
	<b>Laurie S. Kohn</b>	<b>4</b>	Law professor.
<b>Humanities Council of Washington, DC</b>	A non-profit affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities that is dedicated to promoting and presenting educational programs in and about the District.		
	<b>Hector J. Torres</b>	<b>2</b>	Hotel management.
	<b>Adrena C. Ifill</b>	<b>4</b>	Producer.
	<b>Walter Boek, Ph.D.</b>	<b>3</b>	Academic.
<b>Juvenile Justice Advisory Group</b>	Advises the Justice Grants Administration, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, on juvenile justice and delinquency prevention issues and the disbursement of funds.		
	<b>Joseph B. Montgomery</b>	<b>8</b>	Executive Director of nonprofit organization.
	<b>Nicole L. Streeter</b>	<b>1</b>	Attorney with nonprofit youth organization.
	<b>David C. Bowers</b>	<b>6</b>	Program Manager with union housing nonprofit organization.
	<b>M. Melissa Hook</b>	<b>6</b>	Citizen.
	<b>Shelly S. Beaty</b>	<b>7</b>	Financial manager.
	<b>Sonia A. Bacchus</b>	<b>2</b>	Attorney with public transit organization.
<b>Public Service Commission</b>	Regulates public utilities and rates in the District.		
	<b>Agnes A. Yates, Esquire</b>	<b>4</b>	PSC Chairperson; Attorney.

7/30/2004



## Frequently asked questions

### What is a Board or Commission?

*Boards and commissions are independent bodies that provide important advisory, regulatory, policy-making services as part of the Government of the District of Columbia. Members of Boards and Commissions provide an invaluable service to the District by advising the Mayor, the Council of the District of Columbia and the citizens of the District on a variety of significant matters.*

*Members are appointed to boards and commissions by the Mayor, and generally serve without compensation. Members may be appointed to a board or commission by a Direct Appointment, or appointed through the Nominations Process whereby an appointment must be confirmed by the Council of the District of Columbia.*

### What are the Areas of Service?

*The various areas of service on boards and commissions include the following: Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Economic Development, Education, Libraries and Recreation; Finance and Revenue; Government Operations; Health and Health Licensing; Human Services; Judiciary; Local and Regional Affairs; and Public Works and Environment.*

### What are the Primary Responsibilities of a Member Who Serves?

*District boards and commissions vary in size and complexity. Since members are in a critical position to shape and influence board decisions and actions, it is important that each member keeps himself or herself informed and up-to-date on issues, legislative activity, and statutes affecting their board or commission. The guiding themes of an appointed boards and commissions member are: Service, Responsibility, Integrity.*

Mayor Swearing in Members of the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Caribbean Community Affairs in his Ceremonial Conference Room.

### Why Should I Serve?

*Serving is a rewarding experience for community-minded citizens, or those who wish to participate in the work of their professions. It is an excellent way to participate on a grass-roots level in the operations of the District government. The valuable input of citizens makes our government more effective and responsive.*

### How do I get Information about the boards and commissions on which I might want to serve?

*The application form, and other informational guides or forms, can be obtained by visiting our web site at [www.obc.dc.gov](http://www.obc.dc.gov). Descriptions, or profiles, of each board or commission can also be found on our web site. ➔*





# Recruit!

**Do you know someone who would be a great candidate for a board or commission?**

**The Office of Boards and Commissions processes more than one thousand applications annually for 150 boards and commissions. We are always searching for new and qualified individuals to serve on these many important boards.**

**Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission is encouraged to complete the application for Mayoral Appointment to a board or commission and return it, along with a resume or bio to:**

**Director  
Office of Boards and Commissions  
Executive Office of the Mayor  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 530S  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: (202) 727-1372  
Fax: (202) 727-2359  
E-mail: [obc.eom@dc.gov](mailto:obc.eom@dc.gov)**

**Check out our website at:**  
**[www.obc.dc.gov](http://www.obc.dc.gov)**

The Appointment is published by the Office of Boards and Commissions, Executive Office of the Mayor.



Mattie Giles, Ph.D.,  
Member Board of Social Work

*"I consider you and your fellow board members to be my invaluable representatives on boards that function through each segment of the District government. Each day, you are listening to the needs of our fellow citizens, dealing with important community issues, helping to seek equitable solutions to complex problems, assisting in preserving a wonderful quality of life in the District, and ensuring that we do not lose sight of the qualities and standards that make the District such a wonderful place to live, work, do business, and to raise our families."*

----Mayor Anthony A. Williams



OBC Director Ron Collins swears in  
Elizabeth A. Noel, The People's Counsel.